

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-8, 17 and 18 are pending in the application, with Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 17 and 18 amended by the present amendment and Claims 9-16, 19, and 20 were withdrawn from consideration.

In the outstanding Office Action, the title was objected to; Claims 1-8, 17 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph; Claims 1-8, 17 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Fox et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,421,781 B1, hereafter Fox); and Claims 9-16, 19, and 20 were withdrawn from consideration.

Claims xx are amended to more clearly describe and distinctly claim Applicants' invention. No new matter is added.

Briefly recapitulating, Claim 1 is directed to a storage device in a message notification system where the storage device configured to store data including notification administration information specifying communication methods. A notification administration unit makes reference to the notification administration information and originates the notification according to the sending conditions and a predetermined communication method. Independent Claims 2, 17, and 18 are directed to an alternative embodiment of Applicants' invention, also reciting notification administration information. Applicants' claimed inventions allow for more efficient notification queue management.<sup>1</sup>

Fox discloses a server that authenticates notification requests for push services by verifying a certificate.<sup>2</sup> After verifying the certificate and performing security checks, the server processes the notification request. However, contrary to the Official Action, Fox does not disclose or suggest Applicants' claimed notification administration information

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<sup>1</sup> Specification, page 3, lines 1-6.

<sup>2</sup> Fox, abstract and Figure 4.

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Reply to Office Action of July 19, 2004

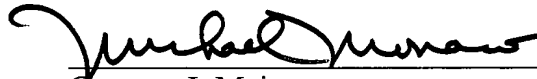
specifying communication methods as recited in Applicants' Claims 1, 2, 17 and 18 and as disclosed in Applicants' originally filed specification.<sup>3</sup>

Because Fox does not disclose or suggest all the elements of independent Claims 1, 2, 17, and 18, Applicants submit the inventions defined by Claims 1, 2, 17, and 18, and all claims depending therefrom, are not rendered obvious by the asserted prior art for at least the reasons stated above.<sup>4</sup>

Accordingly, in view of the present amendment and in light of the previous discussion, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and respectfully request an early and favorable action to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

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<sup>3</sup> Fox, page 20, lines 2-25; Figure 6.

<sup>4</sup> MPEP § 2142 "...the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest **all** the claim limitations. The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, and not based on applicant's disclosure. In re Vaeck, 947 F.2d 488, 20 USPQ2d 1438 (Fed. Cir. 1991)."